UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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EXAMINER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>24 April 2009</u>.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>14-28</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>14-28</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>24 April 2009</u> is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

In an amendment dated, 4/24/2009, the Applicants amended claims 14-16, 18,

20-22 and 24-26; and added claim 28. Currently claims 14-28 are pending.

Claim Objections

1.   **Claim 14** is objected to because of the following informalities: Line 22 recite the

term "and/or" which renders the limitation indefinite, for the purpose of examination the

examiner interpreted the term to be in the alternative "or". Line 28 reads "display

element <u>on or to</u> the display device…", this would better read "display element on the

display device.." to convey clearly that the display element is to be displayed on the

display device.   Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2.   **Claims 14-21 and 23-28** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being

anticipated by Takahashi in US 6,384,801.

3.   Regarding **claim 14**, Takahashi teaches a method for the visualization of digital

display elements (image displayed on displays 50-5n of Fig. 1 per col. 3 lines 54-59),

which are stored in image servers 40 to 4m) on a plurality of display devices (Fig. 1,

displays 50-5n), wherein the visualization of display elements (image displayed on

displays 50-5n of Fig. 1) on a first display device (e.g. display 50 of Fig. 1) and the

visualization of display elements (image displayed on displays 50-5n of Fig. 1) on at

least one additional display device (e.g. display 51 of Fig. 1) takes place in a

chronologically and spatially coordinated manner (col. 4 lines 1-31 where the image

displayed is based on both the distance d1-dn between the displays 50-5n of Fig. 1, and

on the delay time at which the images are displayed with respect from each other based

on the velocity of the viewer), wherein said at least one additional display device (e.g.

display 51 of Fig. 1) is visually coordinated with said first display device (col. 4 lines 20-

26 and 32-39 where the display devices are visually coordinated in order for a moving

person to readily recognize the information), characterized in that:

        providing a plurality of display computer devices (Fig. 1, servers 40-4n), and a

control computer device (Fig. 1, controller 30) connected to said display computer

devices (as shown in Fig. 1) wherein each display computer device (Fig. 1, servers 40-

4n) is associated with a minimum of one display device (Fig. 1, displays 50-5n);

        transmitting a minimum of one display element (moving image, still image or

letters of Fig. 1) in a file format (IDs of events of col. 4 lines 48-57) and a minimum of

one control information (IDs of events, addresses and lengths of col. 4 lines 48-53) to

the control computer device (Fig. 1, controller 30) in a sequence plan (playlist master of

col. 44-47, as shown by play lists and software of Fig. 1 and col. 3 lines 47-53);

said control information (IDs of events, addresses and lengths of col. 4 lines 48-

53) specifying the point in time (start time of col. 4 lines 52-57) and the location of the

display of the display elements on a display device (distance d0-dn of Figs. 3-4 and col.

5 lines 4-12);

said control computer device (Fig. 1, controller 30) analyzing said sequence plan

(playlist master of col. 44-47) and generating a minimum of one control command (delay

time e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5 lines 41-54) from the control

information (IDs of events, addresses and lengths of col. 4 lines 48-53);

said control computer device (Fig. 1, controller 30) transmitting the display

element to the display computer device (as shown in Fig. 1 by the arrows from the

controller 30 to the servers 40-4n);

transforming the display elements (moving image, still image or letters of Fig. 1)

from the file containing the display element (col. 8 lines 17-22, internet), which display

elements are available in digital form (as required for download from the internet to a

personal computer of col. 8 lines 17-22), as a result of the control command (delay time

e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5 lines 41-54) by the display computer

device (Fig. 1, servers 40-4n) into signals in a graphic card and format (as required for a

personal computer of col. 8 lines 17-22) in order to, display the display element (moving

image, still image or letters of Fig. 1) on the display device (Fig. 1, displays 50-5n) and

to transmit it to the associated display device (as required to display from a personal

computer of col. 8 lines 17-22);

said control command (delay time e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5

lines 41-54) specifying the point in time (delay time) at which the display computer

device (Fig. 1, servers 40-4n) transmits a signal (col. 8 lines 7-16, transmission of

program materials from server 40-4n to displays 50-5n) and the display device (playlist

P0-Pn of col. 4 lines 44-47 and distance d of Figs. 3-4 with reference to displays 50-5n

of Fig. 1) to which the signal is to be transmitted (as shown in Fig. 1); and

said display computer device (Fig. 1, servers 40-4n) serving exclusively to

generate image from the digital display elements (as shown in Figs. 1-2per col. 3 lines

47-67).

4.   Regarding **claim 15**, Takahashi teaches said sequence plan is a play list (playlist

master of col. 44-47, as shown by play lists and software of Fig. 1 and col. 3 lines 47-

53) and in that a plurality of display elements (moving image, still image or letters of Fig.

1) and control information (IDs of events, addresses and lengths of col. 4 lines 48-53)

are compiled in said play list (as shown in Figs. 3-4. Note that the display elements are

compiled in the play list as a list of event or programs per col. 4 lines 48-52) and that

said play list is transmitted to the control computer device (it is required that after the

master play list of col. 4 lines 48-57 is generated, it is transmitted either from a different

component within the controller 30 of Fig. 1 or from an external device to the software

for controlling the image servers shown in Fig. 1 per col. 3 lines 51-53).

5.   Regarding **claim 16**, Takahashi teaches said play list (playlist master of col. 44-47) to be analyzed by the control computer device (col. 4 lines 27-30), with control commands being generated for the display (delay time e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5 lines 41-54) of the display elements compiled in said playlist (display elements are events in the play lists of Figs. 3-4).

6.   Regarding **claim 17**, Takahashi teaches the display computer device and control computer device integrated into a network (as shown in Fig. 1).

7.   Regarding **claim 18**, Takahashi teaches the same display elements are transmitted to a minimum of two display computer devices (Fig. 3, where events 0-q are in all play lists, what varies is the transmission start time).

8.   Regarding **claim 19**, Takahashi teaches the control command to be transmitted close to the time of the desired display of the display elements to the display computer device (col. 6 lines 17-49 where the control command is "program repeat mode" or "continuous send mode" of lines 39-40, which is judged and transmitted after the velocity information is detected. Thus teaching the control command transmitted close to the time of the desired display).

9.   Regarding **claim 20**, Takahashi teaches a first control command (a control command from an information display program in the controller 30 is required to download message materials from the Internet to the image servers 40-4n of col. 8 lines 7-22) causes a file containing a display element (internet) to be loaded on the display computer device (servers 40-4n of Figs. 1-2) and that a second control command (delay time e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5 lines 41-54) causes the signal to be transmitted by the display computer device (servers of Figs. 1-2) to the display device (displays 50-5n of Fig. 1) and causes the display elements (moving image, still image or letters of Fig. 1) to be displayed on the display device (col. 4 lines 27-49).

10.   Regarding **claim 21**, Takahashi teaches said first control command (control command to load message material from Internet to servers of col. 8 lines 7-22) and said second control command (delay time e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5 lines 41-54 which delays start time of image transmission) transmitted so as to be staggered by a period of time (the delay time col. 5 lines 41-54 staggers the start time of the play lists, and thus the download of the images from the internet to the server [first control command] will be staggered with the start time of the play lists [second control command]), with said second control command (delay time e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5 lines 41-54 which delays start time of image transmission) causing the signal to be transmitted and the display element to be displayed on the display device after a predetermined period of time (delay time) has elapsed after the

transmission of the second control command (from the controller 30 to the server 40-4n as shown in Figs. 3-4 by start time).

11.   Regarding **claim 23**, Takahashi teaches a plurality of display computer devices (Fig. 1, servers 40-4n) synchronized to a reference point in time (e.g. Y00 of col. 4 lines 53-60) and that the second control command (delay time e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5 lines 41-54) causes the signal to be transmitted at a predetermined time (delay of start time per col. 5 lines 41-54).

12.   Regarding **claim 24**, Takahashi teaches the period of time between the beginning of the transmission of the control command (delay time e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5 lines 41-54) and the transmission of the signal (col. 8 lines 7-16, transmission of program materials from server 40-4n to displays 50-5n) is automatically determined (as shown in play lists Figs. 3-4).

13.   Regarding **claim 25**, Takahashi teaches that during the display of the display element on the display device (Fig. 9. events are different dashed boxes, and are continuously presented as shown), a control signal (velocity information of col. 6 lines 17-22) is transmitted to the control computer device (controller 30 of col. 6 lines 17-22).

14.   Regarding **claim 26**, Takahashi teaches that the point in time at which the

display element is displayed on the display device is controlled by the control computer

device as a function of the control signal (col. 4 lines 15-39 where based on the velocity

detected, the controller determines the delay of the message displayed).

15.   Regarding **claim 27**, Takahashi teaches a plurality of display computer devices

(Fig. 1, servers 40-4n) and a control computer device (Fig. 1, controller 30) that is

connected to the display computer devices (as shown) are provided and that each

display computer device is associated with a minimum of one display device (Fig. 1,

displays 50-5n, shown connected to servers 40-4n).

16.   Regarding **claim 28**, Takahashi teaches that during generation of a signal

(controller 30 generates multiple signals, e.g. a clock signal is required for

synchronization of play lists), a control signal is transmitted to the control computer

device (velocity information of col. 6 lines 17-22).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

17.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

18.   **Claim 22** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Takahashi in US 6,384,801 in view of DiFranza et al. in US 6,073,727.

Takahashi teaches said second control command signal (delay time e1/v0 to

en/v0 calculated by controller in col. 5 lines 41-54) to be transmitted (from controller 30

to server 40-4n at start time in Figs. 3-4) and the display element (moving image, still

image, letters of Fig. 1) to be displayed on the display device (displays 50-5n of Fig. 1)

after a predetermined period of time has elapsed after the transmission of the second

control command (the delay time col. 5 lines 41-54 delays the start time of the play

lists).

Takahashi also teaches the server (Figs. 1-2, 40-4n) to include a storage unit

and a transmitting unit for performing both functions of storing and transmitting

simultaneously (col. 3 lines 54-67), and suggests that the message read out in the

display devices is already stored in the storage units (col. 4 lines 40-43).

But, Takahashi does not explicitly teach said first control command and said

second control command transmitted simultaneously. Nonetheless, DiFranza teaches

a method of distributing information in an elevator where data downloaded from the

Internet is cached in a local server to reduce the effects of browser refresh delay

(DiFranza, col. 13 lines 41-42). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, to transmit simultaneously the first

control command (a control command from an information display program in the

controller 30 is required to download message materials from the Internet to the image

servers 40-4n of Takahashi, col. 8 lines 7-22) and second control command (delay time

e1/v0 to en/v0 calculated by controller in Takahashi, col. 5 lines 41-54) in order to obtain

the benefit of using one transmission packet, and also caching the image to be

displayed in the server storage unit (Takahashi, Fig. 2, 40A) such that when the start

time of display is reached (after the delay time of Takahashi, col. 5 lines 41-54) the

effects of browser refresh delay are reduced (as taught by DiFranza).

Response to Arguments

19.   Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 14 have been considered but are

moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

20.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to LILIANA CERULLO whose telephone number is

(571)270-5882. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Thursday 8AM-

4PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Amr Awad can be reached on 571-272-7764. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

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USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/L. C./
Examiner, Art Unit 2629

/Amr Awad/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629